power finance & risk

The exclusive source for power financing and trading news

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Brookfield To Beef Up Chile Biz

Brookfield Asset Management plans to expand HQI Transelec Chile following its \$2 billion acquisition of the country's largest transmission company. See story, page 2

Evercore Hires Ex-Citi Chief

Boutique investment bank **Evercore Partners** has hired **Jane Sadowsky**, ex-co-head of North American Power at **Citigroup**.

See story, page 3

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MORGAN STANLEY PLOTS ENERGY VEHICLE

Morgan Stanley is in the early stages of putting together an infrastructure investment vehicle focusing on North American energy and power assets. Details on the planned initiative, including size and precise investment target, are still being hashed out over the next several weeks, officials say. But it is expected to be run out of the Manhattan investment bank's asset management unit. Calls to executives at Morgan Stanley were directed to a spokeswoman who declined to comment.

A dearth of updated energy infrastructure in the U.S. and booming demand for power is (continued on page 12)

KAN. COOP PLUMBS LENDERS FOR 600 MW PLANT

Sunflower Electric Power Corp. is hunting financing for a planned 600-690 MW coal-fired plant sited near Holcomb, Kan. The electric cooperative is having preliminary talks with project lenders about bankrolling construction of Holcomb East. The company is being advised by Société Générale as well as law firms including Latham & Watkins and Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll and could look to obtain around \$600 million in debt, one banker speculates.

(continued on page 12)

MERRILL TO RAMP UP COAL, EMISSIONS PLATFORM

Merrill Lynch is aiming to significantly boost its coal and carbon emissions trading platform. The firm sees revenue in coal as interest in the commodity sparks due to anticipated developments using integrated gasification combined cycle plants, which are meant to convert coal into clean burning fuel, says one official close to the firm.

ose to the firm.

(continued on page 12)

AIG, ONTARIO TEACHERS TO RECHARGE NORTHERN STAR DEBT

AIG HighStar and Ontario Teachers' Pension Fund have tapped Lehman Brothers and BNP Paribas to refinance debt tied to the acquisition of its Northern Star Generation. The holding entity consists of a fleet of generation plants acquired over the past several years including recently purchased qualified facilities, Mulberry and Orange, in Florida from Arroyo Energy Investors—the wholly-owned private equity arm of Bear Stearns.

The debt likely will be syndicated in the next few weeks. Calls to Christopher Lee,

(continued on page 12)

At Press Time

🕼 Brookfield Plots Chilean **Transmission Build-Out**

Brookfield Asset Management plans on expanding HQI Transelec Chile, the Chilean transmission company it is purchasing from Hydro Quebec International and International Finance Corporation for nearly \$2 billion. Jeff Blidner, managing partner of infrastructure at Brookfield in Toronto, says the consortium that acquired the country's largest transmission business, which includes Canada Pension Plan Investment Board and British Columbia Investment Management, hopes to build out the operation but declined to provide further details. The acquisition is expected to close July 5.

Lincoln Webb, v.p. at British Columbia Investment in Victoria, says growth opportunities are present in Chile and the group is prepared to invest, but declined to disclose how much the consortium would shell out. The acquisition is being financed with about \$1 billion in equity and a \$600 million term loan led by Scotia Capital and HSBC Securities.

Transelec delivers electricity to over 99% of the Chilean population via 8,300 kilometers of lines and 51 substations. Jason Todd, analyst at Fitch Ratings in Chicago, notes that demand for electricity in Chile is growing.

UBoC, Calyon Kick Off AES L/C Facility

Union Bank of California and Calyon have launched syndication of a \$350 million letter of credit facility for AES Eastern Energy. The L/C for the subsidiary of Arlington, Va.-based AES Corp. will be used to support hedging contracts for generation output, says a bank official. AES Eastern did not previously have an L/C in place, but rather used funds funneled from its parent. Additional details on the L/C including pricing could not be learned. Calls to officials at AES were not returned.

The leads are looking to bring on up to three additional banks to serve as documentation agents willing to take \$50 million slices. General bank syndication is expected to follow but exact pricing and timing of broader syndication could not be learned. The entire deal should be completed by mid-July, a banker notes. UBoC and Calyon officials declined to comment.

AES Eastern has under its umbrella plants Somerset, Kayuga, Westover and Greenidge, which have a combined capacity of 1.3 GW.

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Manhattan Boutique Nabs Ex-Citi Head

Boutique investment bank Evercore Partners is looking to beef up its power business and has hired Jane Sadowsky, ex-cohead of Citigroup's North American power-focused investment banking business in New York, as a senior managing director. She is expected to staff a team of bankers but details and timing could not be learned. Officials at Evercore were not available for comment and an external spokesman declined to comment. Sadowsky could not be reached. She left Citi at the beginning of May.

New York City-based Evercore was founded in 1996 and is headed by co-founders **Roger Altman** and **Austin Beutner**.

TXU Calls Final Bids For Peakers

TXU is set to take final bids this week for its sale of 20 bcf of natural-gas storage and 10.3 GW of gas-fired peakers in Texas. Final bids were expected to be due June 2, and it's unclear whether this represents another round or a delay. The frontrunner appears to be **Reliant Energy**, who wants some of the assets (PFR, 6/4), but Texas oilman **Oscar Wyatt** is also expected take a run for some or all of the assets, say market watchers.

Reliant could use the plants to mitigate the high costs it pays for power delivery to its retail customers. Calls to Wyatt, and to **Peter Kind**, head of power at auction manager **Bank of America**, were not returned. **Chris Schein**, spokesman for TXU, declined to comment.

Dallas-based TXU might be willing to split up the assets, but it may take a slightly lower price for the whole slate than it could get if it sold them piecemeal, observers say.

FirstEnergy Utility To Shop 10, 30-Year Paper

Ohio Edison Electric is planning on selling \$600 million in long-dated bonds to repay inter-company debt obtained from its parent FirstEnergy. The Akron, Ohio-based utility is expected to hit the market with a mix of 10 and 30-year bonds, via underwriters UBS, Barclays, Citigroup, Credit Suisse and Wachovia. Pricing has not yet been set but expectations are that it will be slightly higher than comparable recent offerings given fears that the Federal Reserve might hike interest rates, one banker says.

Ohio Edison is rated Baa2 and BBB- by Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's. FirstEnergy spokeswoman Ellen Raines was unavailable for comment.

On June 7, American Electric Power subsidiary AEP Ohio

sold \$350 million of 10-year notes at a spread of 102 basis points over comparable Treasuries. The company carries a higher rating than Ohio Edison at A3 and BBB.

Nashville Firm To Target India

Courage Capital, a \$1 billion Nashville, Tenn. shop, is preparing to launch its second fund this fall, an India-focused special situations fund that will also target private equity investments in power. The firm is making the move because it views the world's largest democracy as "an investment opportunity whose breadth and depth exceeds that of any in the world," according to an investor presentation.

The *Courage India Fund* will seek to take advantage of the wide-ranging economic and political changes that are currently underway, says **Jayant Sinha**, who will co-manage the fund and its team of analysts in Mumbai. The fund will focus on three sectors: financial services, power and small-cap IT services. Private equity deals will initially be sought in the power industry.

The sector has been hampered by overbearing regulations, but this is in the process of changing, says Sinha, who expects it will soon take off just like the telecom sector has. "In effect, what we anticipate is a massive wholesale power market is going to take place in India," he adds.

FPL Closes In On Bison Wind Placement

FPL Group is nearing completion of a \$206 million private placement of 20-25 year fixed-rate bonds backing two wind farms totaling nearly 200 MW in North Dakota and Oklahoma. Sole



FPL wind farm

placement agent BNP Paribas is expected to complete the socalled Bison Wind offering, sold predominantly to institutional investors, today. Officials at Juno Beach, Fla.based FPL did not return a call for comment and BNP bankers in New York declined to comment.

The bond offering breaks down into two tranches: a \$186 million 24.5-year offering that carries a coupon of 6.665%; and a 15-year \$20 million tranche bearing a coupon of

7.51%. A handful of investors took part in the offering, a banker explains.

FPL funded construction of the facilities, known as Wilton Wind Energy and Weatherford Wind Energy, on its books last year but wanted to raise debt against the operational projects, which have long-term PPAs with offtakers that maintain investment grade credits.

PPAs with Basin Electric Cooperative, and one with American Electric Power subsidiary Public Service Co. of Oklahoma underpin the financings.

Corporate Strategies

Peoples Nabs Boosted \$400M Revolver

Peoples Energy has reworked its revolving credit facility, upsizing by \$175 million to have enough juice should gas prices rise. Doug Ruschau, v.p. of finance and treasurer in Chicago, says the \$400 million five-year line, which was set to expire in March, supports commercial paper that backs its natural-gas trading activities. The facility also acts as a backstop for utility subsidiary Peoples Gas, which has its own \$250 million facility.

Bank of America served as lead arranger, and JPMorgan Chase and ABN AMRO co-managed. All three also provide credit to Peoples Gas. Ruschau says Peoples chose BofA because the company has worked with the firm before and it provides competitive pricing. He declined to provide pricing details.

About \$166 million is outstanding on the gas utility and the parent revolvers, according to its most recent public statement. Peoples has \$894 million in long-term debt, and a debt-to-capitalization ration of 56:44, which it hopes to bring down when it offloads power assets to pay for oil and gas acquisitions, as it announced in February. **Moody's Investors Service** rates Peoples' senior unsecured debt Baa2.

Renewables Outfit Eyes London IPO To Bankroll Plant

Green Energy Resources plans to use the proceeds from an initial public offering on the London Stock Exchange to build new energy projects including a pair of facilities that produce wood pellets used in wood-fired generation plants. Joseph Murray, ceo, says the New York-based renewables firm hopes to raise as much as \$50 million. Libertas Capital, a boutique London investment bank, represents Green Energy as nominated advisor, the executive says. The exact timing of the offering has not yet been set.

The funds help fund Louisiana wood-pellet projects in Lake Charles and New Orleans where economic incentives have been offered after Hurricane Katrina. Murray says 500,000 tons of wood have been amassed from the destruction sites and await shipment. Each plant will cost \$12 million.

Murray says the company is hitting the London Stock

Exchange because it believed it would get the best reception, given Europe's green energy appetite. He also notes that filing for a listing on the LSE can be quicker.

Entergy Reworks Pollution Bonds

Entergy Arkansas plans on using proceeds from a \$54.7 million offering of 4.6% bonds to redeem an older series of debt. The notes replace 24-year, 6.3% pollution control revenue refunding bonds totaling \$9.2 million and a 20-year, 5.6% series issued a decade ago totaling \$45.5 million, says Katherine Ayme, project manager at Entergy Services in New Orleans.

Justin Bowersock, analyst at Fitch Ratings in Chicago, notes the Arkansas electric utility arm of Entergy has a BBB+ rating. The rating reflects its strong net debt to net capital ratio, adds Bowersock. Debt represents 47.5% in the company's capital structure, meeting its sub-50% long-term target.

Currently, Entergy Arkansas has about \$1.3 billion in long-term debt.

Ala. Utility Places 40-Year Notes

Alabama Power has sold \$150 million of 40-year, 6.375% senior unsecured notes. The offering will help fund environmental upgrades as well as other corporate purposes, says Earl Long, assistant treasurer at Atlanta-based parent Southern Co. The utility chose to sell the securities primarily to retail investors because they are less likely to ask for call provisions to be priced into the coupon. The notes carry a five-year no-call provision, after which they can be redeemed at par.

Bookrunner Morgan Stanley led the offering along with Wachovia, Banc of America Securities and Merrill Lynch. Long says the firms, each of which is a lender to Alabama Power, were selected because of their strong retail distribution channels. Alabama Power's senior unsecured debt is rated A2 by Moody's Investors Service.

Alabama Power plans \$250-300 million of environmental spending in 2006, mostly to install scrubbers in its existing coal-fired generation facilities. Long says Alabama Power, along with sister utilities **Georgia Power** and **Gulf Power**, plan to offer more debt later this year.

Financing Record (JUNE 14-JUNE 20)

Debt

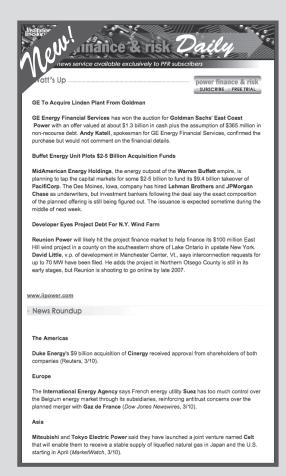
Rule 144A	Issue Date	Issuer	Business Description	Amount (\$ mil)	Coupon (%)	Type of Security	Maturity	Offer Price	YTM(%)	Spread	S&P	Moody's	Fitch
No	6/14/06	National Grid Gas PLC	Dev, op gas transportation	211.9	1.73	Medium-Term Nts	6/28/46	100	1.73		А	A2	NR
	6/15/06	Kowepo(KEPCO/ South Korea)	Cogeneration plant	105.7	Floats	Float Rate Nts	6/15/11	100	Floats				
	6/15/06	Piedmont Natural Gas Co Inc	Gas utility	200	6.25	Sr Ins Ort Nts	6/1/36	Market	Market	114	AAA	Aaa	NR
No	6/19/06	Iberdrola Finanzas S.A.U	Electric utility	377.4	Floats	Flt Rte Gtd MTN	6/28/10	100	Floats		A+	A2	AA-
Yes	6/19/06	Northwest Pipeline Corp	Pvd gas transmission svcs	175	7	Fxd/Straight Bd	6/15/16	99.684	7.045	190	BB-	Ba1	BBB-
	6/20/06	Dominion Resources Inc	Elec,gas utility; hldng co	300	Varies	Jr Subord Notes	6/30/66	99.656	Varies	240	BB+	Baa3	BBB
No	6/20/06	National Grid PLC	Electric utility, holding co	755.2	Floats	Mdm-Trm FI Nts	6/28/10	99.848	Floats		A-	Baa1	A-
	6/20/06	South Carolina Elec & Gas Co	Electric and gas utilitys	125	6.25	Fst Mtg Bonds	7/1/36	99.663	6.275	100	A-	A1	NR

M&A

Announced	Effective	Target Name	Target Advisors	Target Nation	Acquiror Name	Acquiror Advisors	Acquiror Industry Sector	Nation	Acquiror Value (\$M)
6/14/06	6/14/06	Advanced Biomass Gasification	1	United States	Xethanol Corp		Chemicals and Allied Products	United States	
6/14/06		Citilec		Argentina	Eton Park Capital Mgmt LP		Investment & Commodity Firms, Dealers,Exchanges	United States	54
6/15/06	6/15/06	United Cogen Fuels LLC-Bio-		United States	Coastal Carolina Clean Power		Electric, Gas, and Water Distribution	United States	
6/15/06		YNN Pacific Consortium Inc		Philippines	Ranhill Bhd		Business Services	Malaysia	8
6/16/06		HQI Transelec Chile SA	UBS Investment Bank	Chile	Investor Group	HSBC Holdings PLC	Investment & Commodity Firms, Dealers, Exchanges	Canada	2,365.41
6/16/06		HQI Transelec Chile SA	UBS Investment Bank	Chile	Investor Group	HSBC Holdings PLC	Investment & Commodity Firms, Dealers, Exchanges	Canada	
6/16/06	6/16/06	South East Asia Energy Co Ltd		Laos	Investor Group		Investment & Commodity Firms, Dealers,Exchanges	Laos	2.707
6/16/06		Yima Jinjiang Energy		China	China EnerSave Ltd	l	Electric, Gas, and Water Distribution	Singapore	45
6/17/06		Rendo NV		Netherlands	Electrabel SA		Electric, Gas, and Water Distribution	Belgium	83.956
6/19/06		GasNet Australia Group	Rothschild Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty Ltd	Australia	Babcock & Brown Infrastructure	Babcock & Brown Inc Deutsche Bank AG	Investment & Commodity Firms, Dealers,Exchanges	Australia	714.128
			Wilson HTM						
6/19/06		GasNet Australia Group	Babcock & Brown Inc Deutsche Bank AG Wilson HTM Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty Ltd	Australia	Australian Pipeline Trust	Rothschild	Oil and Gas; Petroleum Refining	Australia	
6/19/06		Gaz de France-Italian Natural	Societe Generale	Italy	CAM Gas SpA	Lazard	Electric, Gas, and Water Distribution	Italy	629.05
6/19/06		Guangxi Guidong Elec Power Co	0	China	Iberdrola SA		Electric, Gas, and Water Distribution	Spain	27.284
6/19/06		Obragas Holding NV		Netherlands	Eindhoven		Public Administration	Netherlands	503.24
6/19/06		Rendo Energielevering BV		Netherlands	Electrabel SA		Electric, Gas, and Water Distribution	Belgium	84.109
6/20/06		Padoma Wind Power LLC		United States	NRG Energy Inc		Electric, Gas, and Water Distribution	United States	

Source: Thomson Financial Securities Data Company. For more information, call Rich Peterson at (212) 806-3144.

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Coleto Acquisition Loan May See Tweaking

Goldman Sachs and Credit Suisse Group are looking to push up pricing on financing for American National Power's planned \$1.17 billion term loan B acquisition of Coleto Creek. Floated pricing had been in the 225 basis point neighborhood (PFR, 6/11), but potential buyers are uncomfortable with the leverage already on the 632 MW plant in Goliad County, Texas, and are asking for closer to 300 basis points, bankers say.

Complicating matters further could be recent announcements from NRG Energy and TXU that they plan to spend billions of dollars on baseload generation in Texas, which could lower prices in ERCOT in the future and deflate revenue for Coleto down the road.

The financing consists of a \$935 million, seven-year term loan, a \$60 million, five-year revolver and a roughly \$170 million, seven-year synthetic letter of credit facility (PFR, 6/5). Bruce Levy, president of ANP, and David Leischer, v.p. at Goldman, did not return calls.



Generation Auction & Sale Calendar

Following is a directory of ongoing generation asset sales. The accuracy of the information, which is derived from many sources, is deemed reliable but cannot be guaranteed. To report new auctions or changes in the status of a sale, please call Mark DeCambre, managing editor, at (212) 224-3293 or e-mail mdecambre@iinews.com.

Seller	Plants	Location	MW	Plant Type	Advisor	Status
Atlantic City Electric Company	B.L.England	New Jersey	447	Coal	Concentric Advisors	Underway.
	Key Stone	Pa.	-	Coal		
	Conenaugh	Pa.	-	Coal		
American Securities Capital Partners	Primary Energy Ventures	Oak Broak, III.	900	Various	Bank of America	Ongoing
Aquila	Racoon Creek	III.	340	Gas	Not chosen	Intention To Sell.
	Goose Creek	III.	340	Gas		
	Crossroads	Miss.	340	Gas		
Bear Stearns	Mulberry	Fla.	120	Gas	Bear Stearns	Sold to Northern Star Gen.
	Orange	Fla.	103	Gas	Bear Stearns	
ВР	Great Yarmouth	U.K.	400	Gas	J.P. Morgan	Intention To Sell.
BNP -led bank group	Mystic River 7	Mass.	560	Oil/Gas	Lazard	Owned By Private Equity.
(Exelon developed plants)	Mystic River 8	Mass.	832	Gas		
	Mystic River 9	Mass.	832	Gas		
	Fore River	Mass.	832	Gas		
Carlyle Riverstone/ Sempra Carlyle Riverstone/ Sempra	Coleto Creek Power Station Topaz Power Group	ERCOT ERCOT	632 2.9 GW	Coal Gas&Oil	Goldman Sachs Greenhil & Co.	Acquisition Funding Is In The Market. Ongoing.
Citi & SocGen-led creditor group	Union	Ark.	2,200	Gas	Goldman	Ongoing.
(TECO Energy developed plants)	Gila River	Ariz.	2,300	Gas		
CMS Energy	Ensenada	Argentina	128	Gas	Not chosen	Announced Intention To Sell.
	CT Mendoza	Argentina	520	Gas	J.P. Morgan	
	El Chocon	Argentina	1,320	Hydro	J.P. Morgan	
	Palisades	Mich.	798	Nuke	Concentric Advisors	Offer Memo End Of Jan.
Citi-led bank group	Lake Road	Conn.	840	Gas	Lehman Bros.	Debt Has Been Restructured.
(NEG developed plants) Delta Power	Lowell Power	Mass.	82	Gas	None	Actively Pursuing A Sale.
El Paso Europe	EMA Power	Hungary	70	Coal		



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Interested? Call Daniel Lalor at 212-224-3045 or dialor@iinews.com, or Julian Davies (U.K.) at 44-20-7779-8929 or jdavies@euromoneyplc.com



Generation Auction & Sale Auction (cont'd)

Seller	Plants	Location	MW	Plant Type	Advisor	Status
El Paso North America	Berkshire	Mass.	261 (56.41%)) Gas		Final Bids Due.
(Merchant assets)	CDECCA	Conn.	62	Gas		Negotiations Are Taking Place With
,						3
EnCana	Cavalier	Alberta	106	Gas	HSBC	Launched Sale In April.
	Balzac	Alberta	106	Gas	HSBC	
	Kingston	Ontario	110 (25%)	Gas	HSBC	
5 1 . 5 1	-					0.1.0.117.05
Energy Investors Fund	Multitrade	Va.	79.5 (60%)	Biomass	None	Stake Sold To GE
Entergy Asset Management	Robert Ritchie	Ark.	544	Gas/oil	None	Ongoing.
	Warren Power	Miss.	314	Gas		
	RS Cogen	La.	425 (49%)	CHP		
	Harrison County	Texas	550 (70%)	Gas		
Constellation	Portfolio	Calif., Texas, Va., W. Va., III.	3,125	Gas	Unidentified	Nearing.
Exelon/PSEG	Eddystone Generating Station	Delaware County, Pa.	1,510 MW	Coal and Gas		Interviewing Banks To Advise On Sales.
	Linden Generating Station	Linden, N.J.	775 MW	Gas		
Goldman Sachs	East Coast Power	Linden, N.J.	940 MW	Gas	Goldman	GE Agreed To Purchase Asset.
Gama Construction	Tynagh	Republic of Ireland	400 MW	Gas	Fieldstone Private	Ongoing.
Ireland Limited	7 - 3				Capital Group	
KBC-led creditor group	Milford	Conn	542	Gas	Lazard	Ongoing.
Mirant	Shady Hills	Fla.	474	Gas	BofA	Ongoing.
	West Georgia	Ga.	640	Gas		
	Bosque County	Texas	538	Gas		
	Wichita Falls	Texas	77	Gas		
Morrow Power	Boardman	Ore.	28	Gas	Marathon Capital	Evaluating Bids.
Nations Energy	Bayport	Texas	80	N/A		Considering Liquidation.
0,	Mungo Junction	Ohio	32			
	Southbridge	Mass.	7			
National Energy Gas &	Salem Harbor	Mass.	745	Coal/Oil	Lazard	Dominion Has It Under Contract.
Transmission	Brayton Point	Mass.	1,599	Coal		
(USGen New England)	Manchester St.	R.I.	495	Gas		
3 : 1,	Connecticut River	N.H.	479	Hydro		
	Deerfield River	Mass.	89	Hydro		
Oman (Ministry of Housing,	Rusail	Oman	730	Gas	CSFB	-
Electricity & Water)	Ghubratt	Oman	507	CHP	031 D	
Electricity & Watery	Wad AlJazzi	Oman	350	Gas		
lutur Com	Dadhaad	Old-	1 220		C:+:	Hadrat Vertical The Assets
InterGen	Redbud	Okla	1,220		Citigroup	Harbert Venture Acquired The Assets.
	Cottonwood	Texas	1,235			
	Magnolia	Miss.	900			
Sempra	Twin Oaks	ERCOT	305	Coal	Goldman Sachs	Sold To PNM Resources For \$480 million.
SG-led bank group	Athens	N.Y.	1,080	Gas	Blackstone	Assessing Bids.
(NEG developed plants)	Covert	Mich.	1,170	Gas		
	Harquahala	Ariz.	1,092	Gas		
	Millennium	Mass.	360	Gas		
STEAG	Iskenderun	Turkey	1,320	Gas	Morgan Stanley	Ongoing.
Teco Energy	Dell Power Station	Ark.	540	Gas		Reviewing Options.
	McAdams Power Station	La.	599	Gas		
Tenaska Energy	Tenaska Frontier	ERCOT	830	Gas	Lehman Brothers RBC Capital Markets	J. Power Agreed To Purchase Asset.
Tractebel North America	Chehalis	Wash.	520	Gas	N/A	Looking To Sell Or Swap.
TXU	17 peaker sites	Texas	10.3GW	Gas	Bank of America	First-Round Bids Are In.
WPS Resources	Sunbury Generating Station	Shamokin Dam, Pa.	450 MW	Coal	Lazard	Buyers Are Stalling Over Fuel Contracts.
AAL O LIGGORICES	oundary deficialing station	JIIGIIIUKIII DdIII, Fd.	400 IVIVV	Udi	Lazaru	buyers Are Stailing Over Fuel Contracts.

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Weekly Recap

The Weekly Recap is a summary of publicly reported power news stories. The information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but PFR does not guarantee its completeness or accuracy.

The Americas

- Dominion Resources got the nod from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to expand its Dominion Cove LNG terminal in Maryland to 14.6 from 7.8 billion cubic feet (Associated Press, 6/14).
- Coastal Carolina Clean Power has acquired a wood-fired plant in Duplin County, N.C. from United Cogan Fuels, which Charlotte, N.C.-based Rollcast Energy will run. The plant will produce more than 200,000 MW-hours per year (*Charlotte Observer*, 6/16).
- Houston, Texas-based **Zilkha Biomass Energy** and Jaffrey, N.H.-based **New England Wood Pellet** will collaborate on building New Hampshire's first wood-burning plant, which Zilkha will own and operate in Jaffrey (*Associated Press*, (6/18).
- Eastern Shore Natural Gas, a subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities, has received permission from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend its 331 miles of pipeline by 55 miles in Delaware and Pennsylvania to meet increased customer demand. The project will cost \$33.6 million and construction will start in the next few weeks (Associated Press, 6/20).
- Allegheny Energy has named Philip Goulding, v.p. of strategic planning and chief commercial officer, to replace CFO Jeff Serkes, who is leaving the Greensburg, Pa.-based company July 7 (*Pittsburgh Business Times*, 6/20).
- NRG Energy will spend \$16 billion over the next decade to add 10.5 GW in output mainly within its domestic markets. Projects for the Princeton, N.J., IPP include construction of two nuclear units, three gasified coal units, two pulverized coal-fired units, at least one modern combined-cycle plant and a pair of wind farms (*Associated* Press, 6/21).
- Northern New England Energy, a South Burlington, Vt.-based unit of Gaz Metro, has acquired Colchester, Vt., utility operator Green Mountain Power for \$187 million. Green Mountain said regulatory approvals for the sale could take as long as 12 months (Associated Press, 6/22).

Australia

• Levallois, France-based **Alstom** is constructing a gas-fired plant in New South Wales for \$350 million. The 400 MW project began is expected to be fired up by 2009 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6/21).

- ConocoPhillips may double the capacity of its Wickham Point LNG project in Darwin, spending as much as \$10 billion by adding a second or third unit. The move is in response to growing demand from Asia (*International Herald Tribune*, 6/21).
- Gas transmission entity **GasNet Australia Group** rejected a A\$371.7 million (\$274 million) buyout bid by **Babcock** & **Brown Infrastructure Group** and **Australian Pipeline Trust.** The offer was said to be undervalued (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6/19).
- Liquefied Natural Gas Limited, an energy development company in Perth and U.K.-based LNG transporter Golar, has agreed to pursue five planned LNG projects throughout the county (*PerthNow*, 6/22).

Europe

- Suez chief exec Gerard Mestrallet warned Gaz de France that it will pull out of the Franco-Belgian planned utility's merger if the French parliament fails to approve the deal before its summer recess on Bastille Day (*Financial Times*, 6/19).
- Centrica, the largest gas and electric supplier in the U.K., is set to build the country's first major 1 GW gas-fired power plant in Langage for £400 million (\$731 million), in an attempt to mitigate volatile energy costs (*Reuters*, 6/16).

Asia

- Hazira, India-based Essar Power plans on developing a 1 GW coal-fired power plant in the Korba District of Chhattisgarh, India for the equivalent of \$870.8 million. The plant will consist of two 500 MW units that will supply electricity to an Essar Steel operation (*Hindu*, 6/20).
- Sinopec, an integrated energy and chemical company located in China, is in early talks to build a LNG terminal in Zhuhai, China, as the country aims to boost the use of cleaner gas by 8%. The terminal will cost over \$1 billion (*Reuters*, 6/22).

Russia

• Gazprom and Royal Dutch Shell are considering building a 12 billion-cubic-meter gas-to-liquids plant in Nadym—a project potentially valued at \$8 billion (*Wall Street Journal*, 6/20).

KAN. COOP

(continued from page 1)

Officials at the cooperative did not return calls for comment nor did spokesman Steve Miller in Hays, Kan. Other officials either declined comment or did not return calls. One observer says PNM Resources is expected to take capacity from the generation facility and take part in its development but levels could still be in the works. A call to Jeff Serba, ceo at PNM in Albuquerque, was not returned.

The cooperative is receiving significant support for the Holcomb development and much of the necessary regulatory paperwork has been arranged, observers say. **Bechtel** has been awarded the engineering and procurement contract.

Construction is expected to come in several phases with an additional two or three units, of a similar size, slated after the first is wrapped. Each will take about 42-months once groundbreaking commences. **Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association** of Westminster, Colo., is also involved in the development, according to Sunflower's Web site.

Organized in 1957, Sunflower is a consumer-owned, nonprofit corporation operated by six rural electric distribution cooperatives, providing wholesale power generated by six plants.

—M.D.

AIG, ONTARIO

(continued from page 1)

president at AIG in New York, and **Jim Leech**, senior v.p. at Ontario Teachers', were not returned. Bank officials declined to comment.

Executives are working out the makeup and size of the new debt, officials say. Northern Star maintains nearly 30 domestic generation facilities, predominantly acquired from El Paso Merchant Energy. It paid \$746 million in addition to taking on \$174 million in non-recourse loans for El Paso assets, which are comprised of nearly 2 GW located in several states.

Northern Star's total purchase price for its Florida assets was not disclosed, but Arroyo paid \$156 million to American Electric Power for 46.25% of the 120 MW Mulberry and a 50% share of 103 MW Orange facility, both of which are located in Bartow. The makeup of the remaining ownership interest could not be learned.

Mulberry has a 79.2 MW PPA with **Progress Energy Florida** that expires Aug. 10, 2024 and another with Progress for 30.8 MW that expires Aug. 10, 2009. Orange has a 74 MW PPA with Progress that expires on Dec. 31, 2025, and a 23 MW PPA with **Tampa Electric** that runs through June 15, 2015.

—М.D.

MORGAN STANLEY

(continued from page 1)

the main driver for the push, observers say. Total North American energy demand is expected to increase by some 40% over the next 20 years with \$3.5 trillion projected as the required investment for new developments by 2030, according to an **International Energy Agency** report.

Morgan Stanley's effort could consist of investing in liquefied natural gas facilities, new clean coal developments, storage terminals, pipelines as well as non-energy assets including toll roads, tunnels and bridges.

-Mark DeCambre

MERRILL TO

(continued from page 1)

The boost will take the form of hiring more senior traders, but precise levels have not been determined. Head of coal and emissions trading Matt Schicke in New York and head power trader Jeremy Taylor did not return calls nor did a Merrill spokeswoman.

Merrill two years ago increased its global commodity footprint with the acquisition of Entergy-Koch. It is among a number of entities hoping to diversify their power and energy trading business.

Last month, Paris-headquartered Louis Dreyfus Energy Services hired a pair of energy traders to grow its coal and carbon emissions business (PFR, 5/29).

—M.D.

Calendar

Intertech-Pira is hosting a Photo-voltaic Summit at the Double Tree Hotel Mission Valley in San Diego June 27-28. For more information, please contact **Doug Sanborn** at 207-781-9603.

Quote Of The Week

"In effect, what we anticipate is a massive wholesale power market is going to take place in India." —Jayant Sinha, managing director at Nashville, Tenn.-based Courage Capital, explaining why the fund plans to invest in India's power sector (see story, page 3).

One Year Ago In Power Finance & Risk

Calpine and Bear Stearns teamed up to form an energy-trading joint-venture that would later be named CalBear. [The partnership was dissolved following Calpine's filling for bankruptcy protection.]